5-748

TRANSCRIPT OF RECORD.

SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES.

No. 161.

THE UNITED STATES, APPELLANTS,

vs.

RETURN J. MEIGS, J'R.

APPEAL FROM THE COURT OF CLAIMS.

FILED OCTOBER 6, 1875.

SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES.

No. 161.

THE UNITED STATES, APPELLANTS,

vs.

RETURN J. MEIGS, J'R.

APPEAL FROM THE COURT OF CLAIMS.

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1 *Petition.—Filed Feb.* 21, '73.—*J. R.*

In the U. S. Court of Claims.

R. J. MEIGS, J'R,
vs.
THE UNITED STATES. } No. 7146.

The petition of R. J. Meigs, j'r, respectfully represents to this honorable court:

That he is a citizen of the United States, and that he has always borne true allegiance to the Government of the same; that heretofore, to wit, on the 1st day of July, 1866, he was ass't clerk of the supreme court of the District of Columbia, and as such received for the year, from July 1, 1866, to July 1, 1867, the sum of $2,000 as pay for the discharge of the duties of said position, and also became entitled to the sum of $400, under the joint resolution of Congress of February 28th, 1867, allowing twenty per cent. extra compensation to persons in the civil service of the United States. Proof of the appointment of petitioner, and certificate of the First Comptroller of the Treasury of the amount received by him as compensation during the year, from July 1, 1866, to July 1, 1867, are filed herewith and asked to be taken as part hereof.

That the Interior Department is the Executive Department having jurisdiction of said claim, and that the petitioner made application to said Department for the payment of his said extra compensation, which was refused.

That the said claim has never been assigned, nor has any part thereof, nor any interest therein.

The petitioner prays for judgment against the United States for $400, in accordance with the act of Congress above referred to.

R. J. MEIGS, J'R.

RIDDLE & MILLER,
Attorneys for Claimant.

COUNTY OF WASHINGTON,
District of Columbia, ss:

The above-named R. J. Meigs, j'r, being duly sworn, says that the statements set forth in the above petition are true; that no transfer or assignment of said claim, or of any interest therein, has been made; that he believes he is justly entitled to the amount claimed in said petition, and that no credits or offsets exist against the same.

R. J. MEIGS, J'R.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 27 day of February, 1873.
[SEAL.]
R. J. MEIGS,
Clerk S. C. D. C.,
By L. P. WILLIAMS,
Ass't Clk.

2 In the Court of Claims of the United States. December term, A. D. 1872.

R. J. MEIGS, J'R,
vs.
THE UNITED STATES. } No. 7146.

And now comes the Attorney-General, on behalf of the United States, and makes answer to the petition of the claimant herein; and, not con-

fessing the same, or any part thereof, denies each and every the allegations therein contained, and calls for strict proof of the same.

And as to so much of the said petition as sets forth and avers that the United States are indebted to the said claimant in the sum of four hundred dollars, says that they are not indebted to the said claimant in the said sum of money, nor any part thereof.

And as to so much of the said petition as avers that the said claimant has at all times borne true faith and allegiance to the Government of the United States, and never voluntarily aided, abetted, or given encouragement to rebellion against the said Government, denies the said allegation.

JOHN GOFORTH,
Assistant Attorney-General.

Filed May 20, 1873.

3 In the Court of Claims.

RETURN J. MEIGS
vs.
THE UNITED STATES. } 7146.

At a Court of Claims held at the Capitol in the city of Washington, the 17th day of May, A. D. 1875, judgment was ordered to be entered up as follows:

The court, upon due consideration of the premises, find in favor of the claimant, and do order, adjudge, and decree that the said Return J. Meigs, claimant, do have and recover of and from the United States the sum of four hundred dollars.

By the court.

A true copy of record.

4 In the Court of Claims of the United States. Dec. term, 1874.

RETURN J. MEIGS, J'R,
vs.
THE UNITED STATES. } No. 7146.

From the judgment rendered in the above-entitled cause, on May 17, 1875, in favor of claimant, the defendants, by their Attorney-General, on the 8th day of July, 1875, make application for, and give notice of, an appeal to the Supreme Court of the United States.

THOMAS SIMONS,
Ass't Att'y-General.

Filed July 8, 1875.

AT CHAMBERS.

Allowed.

C. D. DRAKE, *C. J.*

5 United States Court of Claims.

R. J. MEIGS, J'R,
vs.
THE UNITED STATES. }

Findings of fact.

1. The claimant was appointed by the clerk of the supreme court of the District of Columbia an assistant clerk, at a salary of $2,000 a year. The clerk was appointed by the court.

2. Said assistant clerk was thus employed from the 30th of June, 1866, to the 1st of July, 1867, and has received his salary of $2,000 therefor. But he has been paid no additional compensation under the joint resolution of February 28, 1867, (14 Stat. at Large, 569.)

RETURN J. MEIGS *vs.* THE UNITED STATES.
ZACHARY TAYLOR *vs.* THE SAME.
HILLARY GRIMES *vs.* THE SAME.
WILLIAM A. MULLOY *vs.* THE SAME.

NOTT, J., delivered the opinion of the court:

The court remains of the opinion expressed in Huntington's case, (8 C. Cls. Rps., 495,) that the twenty per cent. resolution refers to clerks and employés in the executive branch of the Government, and does not extend to those of the judiciary. But as this decision extends to a class of persons whose counsel believes that they possess a legal right of action, but who have not the right, by reason of the smallness of the demand, to carry up the question, we render judgment pro forma for the purposes of an appeal in certain of them, in the belief that the Attorney-General will not be adverse to carry the question to the Supreme Court in this manner.

The judgment of the court is that the claimant R. J. Meigs recover $400; the claimant Taylor, $67.80; the claimant Grimes, $90; the claimant Mulloy, $224.40.

6 In the Court of Claims.

RETURN J. MEIGS, J'R,
vs.
THE UNITED STATES. } No. 7141.

I, John Randolph, assistant clerk of the Court of Claims, do hereby certify that the foregoing are true transcripts of the pleadings in the above-entitled cause, and the final judgment of the court thereon, of the application of the Attorney-General for the allowance of an appeal, as filed in the clerk's office July 8, A. D. 1875, and of the order of the chief-justice of said court allowing the same, of the findings of fact by the court, and of the opinion of the court.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of said court, at Washington, this seventh day of September, A. D. 1875.

[SEAL.] JOHN RANDOLPH,
Ass't Clerk Court of Claims.

(Indorsement on cover:) No. 161. The United States, appellants, vs. Return J. Meigs, J'r. Court of Claims. Filed 6th October, 1875.